From Spitzer to Herschel and Beyond

The Single Aperture Far Infrared Telescope (SAFIR): Making Dreams Come True

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The astronomical community looks forward to SAFIR, a 10-m class cold space telescope, as a visionary successor to Spitzer and Herschel. This facility observatory would fully bridge the decade of spectrum between JWST and ALMA, and build on the scientific legacies of currently funded projects. SAFIR represents a convergence of fundamental science need with emerging technological feasibility. I review how SAFIR responds to our high priority scientific challenges, both well defined and rapidly evolving, and strategies for bringing the observatory to fruition. I report on the NASA OSS SAFIR Vision Mission study, now in progress.